Bulletin no. 32

HANDBOOK OF COUNTY RECORDS

DEPOSITED WITH THE

NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

A REPORT

BY

D. L. CORBITT, CALENDAR CLERK

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NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In 1916 the North Carolina Historical Commission began systematically to collect the non-current records in the several counties. It has been literally a work of rescuing valuable material from precarious situations. Fire, water, vermin, thieves—in fact all the enemies of archives have preyed on these county records, and there are consequently many and serious gaps in them.

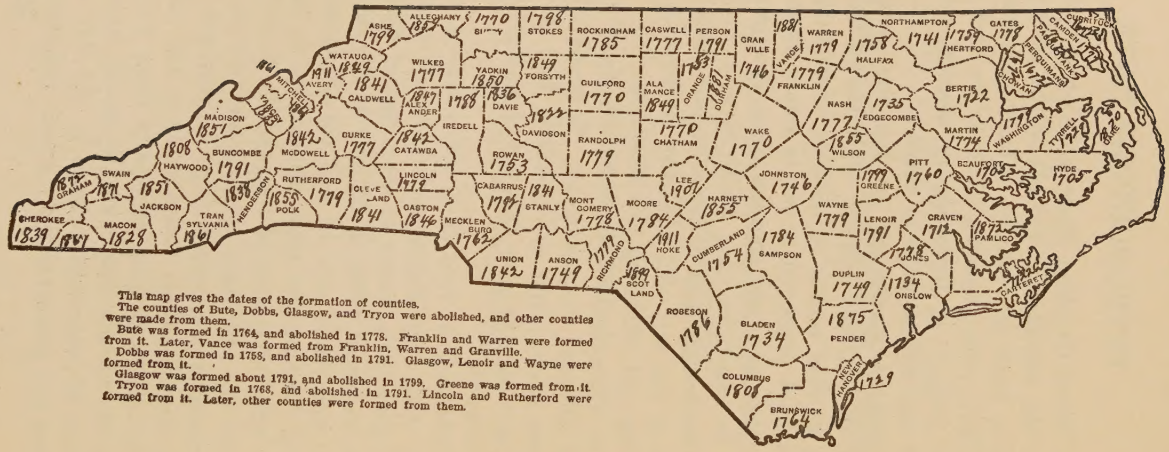
There is nothing mandatory in the law permitting counties to deposit their non-current records with the Historical Commission. Their action in this matter is entirely discretionary. Consequently, some counties have preferred as yet to retain custody of their records. But the fact that so many counties have thus enabled the Historical Commission to centralize this material and care for it is at once evidence of forethought and historical mindedness on the part of their officials, and of the tact and efficiency of Fred A. Olds, who did the work of finding and collecting this material.

In 1924 the Historical Commission employed D. L. Corbitt to list, describe, and calendar its collections. So rapidly had the collection of county records grown, and so constantly had it been in use, that it was deemed necessary to issue this report as the first step in describing the total collections.

Persons interested in records of the counties may, by reading this report, know with some degree of definiteness whether or not a trip to Raleigh will give them access to the material desired. There is listed in it only the material which is actually on the shelves of the Historical Commission, and which can be had for examination in the rooms of the Historical Commission upon application to the persons in charge, except when some of it may be temporarily withdrawn for repairs.

Researchers are welcomed to the rooms of the Historical Commission, and correspondence concerning this material is invited. However, the staff of the Historical Commission is too limited to permit it to engage in private researches, especially those pertaining to genealogy. Unless questions of this nature can be readily answered, it is the policy to refer them to competent persons in the city of Raleigh, who will arrange terms and prosecute the research independently.

R. B. House,
Secretary



This map gives the dates of the formation of counties.
The counties of Bute, Dobbs, Glasgow, and Tryon were abolished, and other counties were made from them.

Bute was formed in 1764, and abolished in 1778. Franklin and Warren were formed from it. Later, Vance was formed from Franklin, Warren and Granville.

Dobbs was formed in 1758, and abolished in 1791. Glasgow, Lenoir and Wayne were formed from it.

Glasgow was formed about 1791, and abolished in 1799. Greene was formed from it.

Tryon was formed in 1768, and abolished in 1791. Lincoln and Rutherford were formed from it. Later, other counties were formed from them.

COUNTIES IN BRIEF

The following is a list[1] of the counties in the State; the date of the formation of each; and the names of the county or counties from which each was formed. The list includes one hundred and four counties, but there are now only one hundred counties. Four were abolished and others made from them.

County	*Date of Formation*	*County from Which Formed*
Alamance	1849	Orange
Alexander	1847	Iredell, Caldwell, Wilkes
Alleghany	1859	Ashe
Anson	1749	Bladen
Ashe	1799	Wilkes
Avery	1911	Mitchell, Watauga, Caldwell
Beaufort	1705	Bath
Bertie	1722	Bath
Bladen	1734	Bath
Brunswick	1764	New Hanover, Bladen
Buncombe	1791	Burke, Rutherford
Burke	1777	Rowan
Bute[2]	1764	Granville
Cabarrus	1792	Mecklenburg
Caldwell	1841	Burke, Wilkes
Camden	1777	Pasquotank
Carteret	1722	Bath
Caswell	1777	Orange
Catawba	1842	Lincoln
Chatham	1770	Orange
Cherokee	1839	Macon
Chowan	1672	Albemarle
Clay	1861	Cherokee
Cleveland	1841	Rutherford, Lincoln
Columbus	1808	Bladen, Brunswick
Craven	[3]1712	Bath
Cumberland	1753	Bladen
Currituck	1672	Albemarle
Dare	1870	Currituck, Tyrrell, Hyde
Davidson	1822	Rowan
Davie	1836	Rowan
Dobbs[4]*	1758	Johnston
Duplin	1749	New Hanover
Durham	1881	Orange, Wake
Edgecombe	1735	Bertie

[1] Data taken from the North Carolina Manual 1913.
[2] Bute was abolished and Franklin and Warren were formed from it in 1779.
[3] This date is given as "about 1712."
[4] Dobbs was abolished in 1791 and other counties formed from it.
* Taken from Wheeler's map of the formation of the counties.

County	*Date of Formation*	*County from Which Formed*
Forsyth	1849	Stokes
Franklin	1779	Bute
Gaston	1846	Lincoln
Gates	1778	Chowan, Perquimans, Hertford
Glasgow[5]†	1791	Dobbs
Graham	1872	Cherokee
Granville	1746	Edgecombe
Greene	1799	Glasgow
Guilford	1770	Rowan, Orange
Halifax	1758	Edgecombe
Harnett	1855	Cumberland
Haywood	1808	Buncombe
Henderson	1838	Buncombe
Hertford	1759	Chowan, Bertie, Northampton
Hoke	1911	Cumberland, Robeson
Hyde[6]	1705	Bath
Iredell	1788	Rowan
Jackson	1851	Haywood, Macon
Johnston	1746	Craven
Jones	1778	Craven
Lee	1907	Chatham, Moore
Lenoir	1791	Dobbs, Craven
Lincoln	1779	Tryon
Macon	1828	Haywood
Madison	1851	Buncombe, Yancey
Martin	1774	Halifax, Tyrrell
McDowell	1842	Rutherford, Burke
Mecklenburg	1762	Anson
Mitchell	1861	Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, McDowell
Montgomery	1778	Anson
Moore	1784	Cumberland
Nash	1777	Edgecombe
New Hanover	1729	Bath
Northampton	1741	Bertie
Onslow	1734	Bath
Orange	1753	Granville, Johnston, Bladen
Pamlico	1872	Craven, Beaufort
Pasquotank	1672	Albemarle
Pender	1875	New Hanover
Perquimans	1672	Albemarle
Person	1791	Caswell
Pitt	1760	Beaufort
Polk	1855	Rutherford, Henderson
Randolph	1779	Guilford
Richmond	1779	Anson
Robeson	1786	Bladen
Rockingham	1785	Guilford
Rowan	1753	Anson
Rutherford	1779	Tryon, Burke
Sampson	1784	Duplin, New Hanover

[5] Glasgow was abolished in 1799 and Greene was made from it.
[6] Called Wickham until about 1712.
† Taken from Wheeler's map of the formation of the counties.

County	*Date of Formation*	*County from Which Formed*
Scotland	1899	Richmond
Stanly	1841	Montgomery
Stokes	1798	Surry
Surry	1770	Rowan
Swain	1871	Jackson, Macon
Transylvania	1861	Henderson, Jackson
Tryon[7]‡	1768	Mecklenburg
Tyrrell	1729	Albemarle
Union	1842	Anson, Mecklenburg
Vance	1881	Granville, Warren, Franklin
Wake	1770	Johnston, Cumberland, Orange
Warren	1779	Bute
Washington	1779	Tyrrell
Watauga	1849	Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, Yancey
Wayne	1779	Dobbs, Craven
Wilkes	1777	Surry, Burke
Wilson	1855	Edgecombe, Nash, Johnston, Wayne
Yadkin	1850	Surry
Yancey	1833	Burke, Buncombe

There are forty-one counties in the state from which there is no material available in the archives of the Historical Commission. Some of these counties have been so unfortunate as to lose by fire or during the Civil War all of their records, while some of them are so young as to have no records except those which are now in use in the county seat.

The following is the list of the counties from which there is material available. A fuller description of this material is given elsewhere in this report.

County	*County Seat*	*County*	*County Seat*
Ashe	Jefferson	Cumberland	Fayetteville
Beaufort	Washington	Currituck	Currituck Court-house
Bertie	Windsor	Duplin	Kenansville
Brunswick	Southport	Edgecombe	Tarboro
Buncombe	Asheville	Franklin	Louisburg
Burke	Morganton	Gates	Gatesville
Bute	Buffaloe (abolished in 1778)	Granville	Oxford
		Halifax	Halifax
Cabarrus	Concord	Hertford	Winton
Camden	Camden Court-house	Hyde	Swan Quarter
		Jackson	Sylva
Carteret	Beaufort	Jones	Trenton
Caswell	Yanceyville	Lenoir	Kinston
Chatham	Pittsboro	Martin	Williamston
Chowan	Edenton	Mitchell	Bakersville
Columbus	Whiteville	Nash	Nashville

[7] Tryon was abolished 1799 and other counties made from it.
‡ Taken from Wheeler's map of the formation of the counties.

County	*County Seat*	*County*	*County Seat*
New Hanover	Wilmington	Rockingham	Wentworth
Northampton	Jackson	Rowan	Salisbury
Onslow	Jacksonville	Rutherford	Rutherfordton
Orange	Hillsboro	Stokes	Danbury
Pasquotank	Elizabeth City	Tyrrell	Columbia
Perquimans	Hertford	Warren	Warrenton
Pitt	Greenville	Washington	Plymouth
Polk	Columbus	Wayne	Goldsboro
Richmond	Rockingham	Wilkes	Wilkesboro
Robeson	Lumberton	Yadkin	Yadkinville

The following is a list of the counties from which there is *no material* in the collections of the Historical Commission.

Alamance	Graham	Hoke	Raeford
Alexander	Taylorsville	Iredell	Statesville
Alleghany	Sparta	Lee	Sanford
Anson	Wadesboro	Lincoln	Lincolnton
Avery	Elk Park	Macon	Franklin
Bladen	Elizabethtown	Madison	Marshall
Caldwell	Lenoir	Montgomery	Troy
Catawba	Newton	Moore	Carthage
Cherokee	Murphy	Pamlico	Bayboro
Clay	Hayesville	Pender	Burgaw
Cleveland	Shelby	Sampson	Clinton
Dare	Manteo	Scotland	Laurinburg
Davidson	Lexington	Stanly	Albemarle
Davie	Mocksville	Surry	Dobson
Durham	Durham	Swain	Bryson City
Forsyth	Winston-Salem	Transylvania	Brevard
Gaston	Dallas	Union	Monroe
Graham	Robbinsville	Vance	Henderson
Greene	Snow Hill	Watauga	Boone
Harnett	Lillington	Wilson	Wilson
Henderson	Hendersonville	Yancey	Burnsville

The marriage bonds from the following counties are open to the public for use in the rooms of the Historical Commission but there is no other material on these counties:

County	*County Seat*	*Number of Boxes*
Craven	New Bern	24
Guilford	Greensboro	26
Haywood	Waynesville	10
Johnston	Smithfield	21
McDowell	Marion	4
Mecklenburg	Charlotte	18
Person	Roxboro	10
Randolph	Ashboro	26
Wake	Raleigh	38

All of these marriage bonds are arranged alphabetically so as to eliminate useless searching as much as possible.

COUNTY RECORDS

ASHE COUNTY

Ashe County was formed from Wilkes in 1799. Was named in honor of Samuel Ashe, who was at one time Governor of North Carolina.

There is very little material on Ashe County. What material there is consists of one book of Records of Wardens for the poor, including the years from 1832 to 1855, and two volumes of County Court Minutes, the first of which dates from 1806 to 1821, and the second from 1821 to 1826. There are a few marriage bonds dating from 1828 to 1889.

The Court Minutes are more valuable than the Records of the Wardens for the poor. The Justices of the Peace who held the Quarter Sessions are listed for each term, as well as the regular and grand jurors. These books contain such material as the appointment of constables of the county; records of all deeds being acknowledged; records of summonses; records of court proceedings with some judgments; powers of attorney; inventories of estates; records of petitions and exparte proceedings (division of land to heirs of a deceased person); and a few wills. It is quite evident that the books served in some cases the purposes of both the register of deeds (as they contain material belonging in the office of the register of deeds) and as a record for the courts. They contain all cases and records of deeds filed from 1806 to 1826.

The Wardens' Records give the names of the various wardens and the names of those to whom funds were paid, together with the amount. Some wardens were appointed to do one specific thing and no more, while others were to feed and clothe certain people, and still others were to have complete responsibility for persons assigned to their care, and in almost every case it was for a definite period.

The marriage bonds are arranged alphabetically.

BEAUFORT COUNTY

Beaufort County was formed from Bath in 1705, and was named for Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort.

There is not much material available on this county. One minute book dating from 1756 to 1761, one book of the list of taxables for the year 1784, a book of deeds for the years 1795-1807, and an abstract of wills form the entire lot.

The minute book contains such material as follows: Acknowledgments of deeds; acknowledgments of inventories; powers of attorney;

records of flesh marks and brands; acknowledgments of options; records of apprenticing minors; acknowledgments of deeds of gifts; granting licenses for attorneys; probations of wills; records of appointments of executors and administrators; acknowledgments of bills of sale of negroes; and acknowledgments of deeds of surrender.

The List of Taxables contains the names of the freeholders and the valuation of the listed property for the several districts, and then there is a recapitulation of the whole taxable property, which amounted to £211,713.10.1. (This amount was for year 1784.)

The deed book contains deeds, deeds of trust; and bills of sale for the years 1795-1807, which are copied from the originals.

There are no marriage bonds from Beaufort County.

BERTIE COUNTY

Bertie County was formed from Albemarle in 1722, being named for John and James Bertie, two of the Lords Proprietors, who together owned one-eighth of Carolina.

There is a fairly good collection of material from this county, which includes one Crown Docket, 16 volumes of Court Minutes, one volume of land entries, and the marriage bonds.

The Crown Docket dates from 1762 to 1775, and contains the record of cases, of which the following is an example:

16	The King vs. Thomas Pearce	Indictment for Contempt	Executed	Defendant appeared and submitted himself to the court. Fined £5

From this docket it is found that in those days a great many cases were continued, and also that many defendants failed to appear.

The Court Minutes are contained in sixteen volumes, of various sizes. These records date from the year 1767 to 1868.

In the first volume of the County Court Minutes 1767 to 1772, there is a list of the Justices of the Peace, and the regular and grand jurors for each term of the Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Court. The book contains acknowledgments of deeds; appointments of overseers of roads; orders for apprenticing minors; orders for the Sheriffs to make returns of accounts; orders for auditing the accounts of deceased men; probations of wills; appointments of constables; powers of attorney; acknowledgments of bills of sales; orders for recording inventories of the estates of deceased persons; orders for appointments of guardians; orders for sale of property of orphans; security bonds; orders for men to work the roads, etc. There seem to be no records of court trials and decisions in this volume.

Volume two, 1772 to 1777, contains practically the same kind of material as described above. There are, however, one or two court trials recorded in this book, but there seems to be no judgments.

Volume three, 1778 to 1792, contains material of the same nature and, in addition, the establishment and recording of flesh marks, appointment of Sheriffs, etc. From this book the following was taken from the May Term 1780:

> Ordered the tavern rates are as follows Viz. For a hot dinner of good provisions twelve dollars and a half. Breakfast of tea or coffee bread and butter six dollars. Supper of meat eight dollars, if coffee or tea six dollars, for a gill of good west India rum ten dollars, country brandy whiskey and toffy five dollars per gill for lodging and night two dollars for storage for horses for twenty-four hours four dollars corn twelve shillings per quart, fodder or hay sufficient for a bait for a horse twenty four shillings.

Other court records in the volume are: Order for Sheriff to mend the gaol; cases tried and judgments rendered; releasing a cripple from poll tax; the names of the districts of the Justices of the Peace to list the taxable property in each.

Volume four, 1793 to 1801, is a continuation of the preceding material. However, there is a record in this book of the court's appointing a County Surveyor, special commissioners to receive roads for public use, and others to make private examination of wives for the proper execution of deeds. In the last part of this volume is given the court cases and the number of the jury opposite each case.

The volume of 1803 is small and contains very little material. The material is of the same nature as that of the preceding volumes.

From 1803 to 1868 there are nine volumes which are dated as follows: 1803-1805, 1805-1807, 1808-1813, 1813-1818, 1818-1822, 1822-1832, 1832-1841, 1842-1853, 1853-1867, and 1868. All these volumes contain such material in general as that described. There are, however, records of various petitions such as petitions for dowers; petitions for partitions of land; petitions for year's provisions for widows; various security bonds given in full; orders given for funds to be paid for the building of bridges; orders for the register of deeds to be paid. (It appears from these books that the court by 1820 was exercising the function of the present day county commissioners and auditors.) The last volume contains the proceedings of May Term 1868.

The volume of County Court Minutes dated 1842-1843 contains the court proceedings from February Term 1842 to and including the February Term 1843. But in the back of this volume is a record of a bond issue dated January 1, 1872.

There was one series of bonds of $20 denomination which numbered consecutively from 1 to 220; there was another series of $100 denomination which ran consecutively from 1 to 130; and the coupons of all were due at different times between January 1, 1873, and Janu-

ary 1, 1883. These bonds bore six per cent interest and were issued under Act of ————————. (The Act* was omitted). The names of the bondholders are listed.

There is also a book of land entries dating from May 13, 1778 to February 14, 1781, and it contains 275 entries.

The marriage bonds are arranged alphabetically.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Brunswick County was formed in 1764 from New Hanover and Bladen. Was named in honor of the famous House of Brunswick, of which the four Georges, Kings of England, were members.

There is a medium amount of material from this county. Some of the counties have a great deal more and some a great deal less. Of the total collection there are nine volumes of County Court Minutes; three volumes of wills; one volume of public school records, and one volume of Register of Officers' bonds, and the marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date as follows: 1782-1801, 1805-1820, 1820-1823, 1824-1830, 1831-1839, 1839-1845, 1845-1852, 1850-1859, and 1866-1868. The material is of the nature of the material in other counties, which is as follows: Acknowledgments of deeds and deeds of trust; appointments of commissioners for special duties such as to make navigable certain streams; appointments of patrols; acknowledgments of bills of sale; cases and disposition of them; acknowledgments of the returns of inventories; records of guardians returning their accounts; records of administrators' returns; lists of the Justices of the Peace and petit and grand juries; appointments of auditors to settle the accounts of deceased persons; records of granting licenses for retailing liquor; some wills; petitions for dowers, year's provisions, etc.; appointments of auctioneers; records of filing security bonds; appointments of overseers of roads; records of flesh marks; lists of land sold for taxes; and records of peace warrants.

There are three volumes of wills dating 1781 to 1822, 1822 to 1827, and 1829 to 1841. These books contain only the wills.

The volume of Public School Records dates from 1840 to 1860.

The volume of the Register of Officers' bonds dated from 1796 to 1829.

The marriage bonds are arranged alphabetically.

BURKE COUNTY

Burke County was formed in 1777 from Rowan. Was named in honor of Dr. Thomas Burke, a member of the Continental Congress and Governor of North Carolina.

* Have been unable to locate Act authorizing this bond issue.

There is little material from this county. Three volumes of County Court Minutes are on the shelves which date respectively 1807-1818, 1818-1829, 1830-1840. There is one case of original wills dating from 1794 to 1866, and also two boxes of Court Papers dating respectively 1782-1842 and 1783-1843. There are also some marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes contain the same general material as in other Court Minutes of that time. The most numerous things recorded are the acknowledgments of deeds; lists of the Justices of the Peace, and petit and grand jurors; appointments of special commissions; road overseers; letters of administration; lists of justices to make lists of taxable property; acknowledgments of wills; appointments of guardians; the apprenticing of orphans; petitions of various kinds such as for dower, for roads, and for year's allowance; cases, judgments, and executions; and appointments of patrols. There are also records of several cases where the court ordered certain sums to be paid out of the public money for the scalps of wolves and panthers.

The case of wills is small and does not contain many papers. However, there are some that reach as far back as 1794. The latest are dated 1868.

The two cases of Court Papers are very interesting. They contain such material as letters, warrants, appearance bonds, appeal bonds, subpoenas, capiases, executions, ejectment proceedings, commissions of the Justices of the Peace for special trials, summons to take depositions, depositions, surveyors' reports, and a copy of the National Intelligencer-Extra, which contains the special message of President John Tyler which was delivered to a joint session of Congress June 1, 1841.

There is one box of marriage bonds.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY

Buncombe County was formed in 1791 from Burke and Rutherford. Was named in honor of Colonel Edward Buncombe, a Revolutionary soldier.

There are three volumes available from this county. There is a Trial Docket dated 1796-1805, a volume of County Court Minutes dated 1822-1824, and a volume of marriage records dated 1851-1870.

In the Trial Docket is such material as follows:

9	William Galloway vs. John Odel	2 case 2	The defendant came in court acknowledged the service of writ	War. required Gen issue jury charged non suit

There were no other records kept in this volume.

The volume of County Court Minutes dating from January 1822 to October 1824 contains such material as the lists of the Justices of the Peace, and the petit and grand jurors for each term of the court

of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. And in addition there are records of granting letters of administration; records of Deputy Sheriffs giving bond; appointment of Commissioners to lay off year's allotment for support; records of cases and disposition of them; records of binding out orphans; granting licenses for retailing liquor; records of *exparte* proceedings (petition and the granting of the petition to divide the land of a deceased person among his heirs); decrees allowing specified prices for daily board; and itemized inventories of estates of deceased persons.

The volume of Marriage Records dates from 1851 to 1870. In the first part of the book is the complete certificate of the marriage, which is known as a marriage bond, except that this is a copy, but in the last part are mere statements that certain persons were legally married, giving the date and the name of the minister or magistrate.

There are no marriage bonds of Buncombe County.

BUTE COUNTY

Bute County was formed in 1764, from Granville. Was named in honor of John Stuart, Earl of Bute, one of the principal Secretaries of State, and also First Lord of the Treasury under King George III. Because of the unpopularity of the Earl, the General Assembly in 1778 passed an act which wipe Bute County from the map, and Warren and Franklin counties were erected from its territory.

The duration of this county was short, and in consequence there could not have been a great deal of material from it. And as it is, all the original material is not available. There is one volume of County Court Minutes dating from 1767 to 1776; one case and part of another case of County Court papers dating from 1765 to 1779; one case of original wills dating from 1764 to 1779; two cases of inventories of estates dating from 1764 to 1779; and one book of land entries.

The County Court Minutes dating from 1767 to 1776 contain such material as the acknowledgment of deeds and bills of sale; probation of wills; appointments of overseers of roads; lists of the Justice of the Peace, and the lists of the petit and grand juries for each term of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Court; various kinds of petitions; special orders for the erection of bridges; various kinds of bonds proved in court; records of guardians being appointed; and records of apprenticing orphans. On page 181 of this volume is listed the price of liquors and various kinds of drinks, and board and lodging as passed on by the court. On page 191 is a record of the court's not recognizing the authority of the Royal Governor, William Tryon.

In the case of Court Papers is such material as officers' bonds; contracts; records of apprenticing orphans; demand and promisory notes; deeds of gifts; notices of appeal; agreements for the division of negroes

of deceased persons; guardians' bonds and administrators' bonds; petitions for relief from paying taxes and from public service; bills of sale and inventories of estates; royal commissions for the office of sheriff, etc. There is also a list of taxables for Bute County dated 1771 as well as a copy of land entries, which is dated 1778-1779 and contains 380 records of land. Also at the front and back of this book is a page giving a list of articles at the naval office at New Bern, N. C. These pages are torn, but some of each is legible.

The case of wills dates from 1765 to 1779, and contains the original wills.

The two cases of inventories include materials between the years 1764 and 1779. There are inventories of estates of deceased men made by administrators before disposition of property. There are also accounts of the sale of property, and bills of goods purchased. In one case there is a list of vouchers paid out of the public funds for the year 1760.

There are 89 marriage bonds.

CABARRUS COUNTY

Cabarrus County was formed in 1792 from Mecklenburg. Was formed in honor of Stephen Cabarrus, of Edenton, several times a member of the Legislature and often Speaker of the House of Commons.

There is only one volume of County Court Minutes from this county and it is dated from 1793 to 1797. On the first page of this volume is the following:

State of North Carolina—

The minutes and proceedings of the county court begun and held in the county of Cabarrus agreeable to an Act of Assembly of the State of North Carolina made for the purpose of dividing the county of Mecklenburg and erecting a separate and distinct county by the name of Cabarrus at the house of Robert Russels the third Monday of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety three and in the seventeenth of our Independence.

The material usually recorded in court minutes is included in this book. There are acknowledgments of deeds, powers of attorney, appointments of various kinds, lists of jurors, and Justices of the Peace; bills of sale and several petitions recorded. There are a few records of marks and brands.

There are 22 boxes of marriage bonds which are arranged alphabetically.

CAMDEN COUNTY

Camden County was formed in 1777 from Pasquotank. Was named in honor of the learned Englishman, Charles Pratt, who was Earl of Camden, and one of the strongest friends of the Americans in the British Parliament.

The material from this county is very scanty, there being only two volumes, one of which is County Court Minutes, and the other Orphans' Accounts. There are no marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date from 1855 to 1868 and contain such material as acknowledgments of deeds, bills of sale, etc.; lists of the Justices of the Peace and jurors for each term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; records of the appointments of guardians and their qualifying by giving bond; various petitions; orders for special audits of estate; letters of administration; special orders for road overseers and patrols; and the probation of wills. The records in this book are in excellent condition, and were exceedingly well recorded.

The first part of the Orphans' Account Book is pasted up with other material which is very valuable. The accounts of the orphans date from 1803 to 1809. The accounts are records of the expenditure of money (and for what purpose) of the orphans of Camden County.

The papers pasted in the front of the book pertain to several matters. There are notices sent out by the Secretary of State to the clerks of the counties informing them of the laws passed by the General Assembly; commissions from the Governor appointing Justices of the Peace; military circulars and orders; various lists of taxables and tax returns for both real and personal property and privilege taxes; letters and articles from State officials, some of which interpret the laws for the benefit of county officers. There are also military pamphlets pasted in this volume.

There are no marriage bonds from this county, but there is recorded in the book of orphans' accounts the act passed by the General Assembly requiring the county officers to keep a record of all persons married as well as a record of their parents.

CARTERET COUNTY

Carteret County was formed in 1722 from Bath. Was named in honor of Sir John Carteret, afterwards (1744) Earl Granville, one of the Lords Proprietors.

There is a great deal of material on Carteret, and some of it is very old, going back as far as 1717. There are grant books, deed books, County Court Dockets, County Court Minutes, lists of taxables, marriage bonds, and miscellaneous records, as well as abstract of wills to 1800.

There are more than 25 volumes of County Court Minutes, including many pamphlets dating from 1724 to 1868. The volume, or rather the cover of the volume, dated 1724, has only one page, and that is badly torn. The next volume according to date is of the nature of a pamphlet. It is dated 1764-1767, and contains the material generally found in court minutes of that time. The next volume is dated 1771-1775, and

the others as follows: 1775-1781, 1781-1782, 1783-1785, 1793-1796, 1796-1799, 1799-1804, 1804-1813, 1813-1820, 1821-1830, 1824-1826 (there are several pamphlets between these dates); 1826-1827, 1831-1837, 1837-1845, 1840-1841, 1842-1845, 1845-1848, 1849-1852, 1853-1858, 1858-1868. There is no record in this volume for the year 1863. Some of these volumes contain some very interesting material. In the back of the volume dated 1804-1813 is a list of the jurors, the number of miles each traveled to reach court, and the amount paid for his services. The list contains the jurors for the years 1807-1812. In the back of the volume dated 1813-1820 is a list of the names of persons granted licenses to retail small quantities of liquors. These licenses were granted at the terms of court held in the years 1817-1821. In the same book is a drawing or map of land which was divided among the heirs of Gabriel Holmes. In the volume dated 1821-1830 there is also a list of the persons to whom licenses were granted to sell liquors in small quantities. There is also in this book the list of property sold for taxes and the amount of the taxes. In the back of the volume dated 1831-1837 is a list of the Justices of the Peace who were commissioned and who qualified, and also receipts signed by the Justices of the Peace who received a copy of the revised statutes of North Carolina.

In the volume dated 1858-1868, on page 2, is a record of a suit growing out of a controversy between the Justices of the Peace of Carteret County and the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad for $50,000 worth of stock. The agreement between these parties is recorded, which included an order for $50,000 worth of bonds to be issued with which to purchase the stock. Also there is between pages 211-212 a proclamation issued to the people of North Carolina by William W. Holden, Provisional Governor, informing the people of his appointment, and giving his purpose and plan of reorganization of the government, and beseeching the people who are or were loyal to support him. Between pages 215-216 is pasted another proclamation of William W. Holden, Provisional Governor, giving the number of people to be elected from each county to represent it in the State Convention. Also there is the list of the 14 classes forbidden to take the oath of amnesty.

Besides the special things mentioned, there is such material as acknowledgments of deeds and bills of sale; appointments of road overseers; lists of the Justices of the Peace and the petit and grand jurors; various kinds of petitions, such as petitions for partitions of land, for year's provisions, for dowers, for the sale of real and personal property to create assets to pay indebtedness; probations of wills; various court cases and their disposition; rate of taxes; lists of land sold for taxes both for the county and town.

Among the pamphlets of County Court Minutes in the case dated 1764-1782 is a copy of a docket dating from 1741 to 1856. It contains the case referred to or appealed to the Superior Court.

Among the pamphlets of the County Court Minutes in the case dated 1724-1796 is a pamphlet of deeds dating from 1749 to 1752.

In a case labeled, "Carteret County Court Docket, 1731-1784," are eleven pamphlets, which contain appearance and reference cases, reference petitions, and execution dockets. An example of the material is as follows:

APPEARANCE DOCKET TO DECEMBER COURT 1785

17	David Cooper vs. Wm. Smith	case	executed and agreed	dismissed, clerk's fee paid

There is a grant book dating 1717 to 1724, and two deed books dating 1752-1759 and 1765-1775. These books are the originals.

Among the pamphlets and copies in the case labeled "Deeds 1721-1783" is a copy of Court Minutes dating 1841-1842; a copy of the records of deeds, but not the deeds as labeled on the cover. This book is dated 1745-1756. There is a large volume of deeds dated 1757-1766 and a small pamphlet dated 1721-1723, containing deeds which were given for land sold under authority of an Act passed by the Assembly which gave power to sell land upon which the quit rents had not been paid. There is also in this case a list of taxables for the year 1784. The book gives the names of the people, the number of acres, the district, the white and black polls, and the total taxes due or paid, and at the end there is a grand total of all taxes.

There are also three volumes of taxables which include the years from 1802 to 1819. From these three volumes can easily be ascertained the number of polls for each year, taxable property, etc. They are in good condition.

There is a case containing a little miscellaneous material such as security bonds, inventories of estates, one will loose, and a book of wills and bonds, and one copy of powers of attorney. These books are in poor condition.

There are seventeen cases of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

CASWELL COUNTY

Caswell County was formed in 1777 from Orange. Was named in honor of Richard Caswell, member of the First Continental Congress, first Governor of North Carolina after the Declaration of Independence, six times reëlected Governor, and Major-General in the Revolutionary Army.

There are County Court Minutes, marriage bonds, lists of taxables, inventories of estates, wills, and land entries.

It is an exceptional thing that the first volume of County Court Minutes has been preserved, and is in splendid condition. The first

session of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions was held in June 1777. This volume includes the proceedings from 1777 to 1781. The other volumes are dated as follows: 1781-1788, 1788-1794, 1794-1801, 1801-1809, 1809-1813, 1814-1819, 1819-1823, 1823-1831, 1835-1839, 1839-1842. These volumes contain material ordinarily found in such records.

There are also several books of various sizes of County Court Minutes in a box with lists of taxables. These records are small pamphlet-like volumes, or are parts of larger books which have come apart. These books or pamphlets are dated as follows: 1822, 1843-1843, 1843, 1834, 1844.

The box of wills is dated from 1777 to 1800 and they are arranged alphabetically.

There are several volumes of lists of taxables, which are dated, and include the following dates: 1781, 1787, 1788, 1791, 1792, 1797, 1798, 1803, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806.

These lists give the names, the number of acres, the number of polls, both white and black, and the assessed valuation of the property. At the end of each year is a recapitulation of the entire list.

There are two boxes labeled "Inventories of Estates," and they are dated 1777 to 1800. These boxes should be labeled "Miscellaneous Court Papers," for they include powers of attorney, deeds of gift, bills of sale, election returns, witness tickets, guardians' returns, and bonds, as well as inventories of estates.

There is one volume of land entries, which is dated 1788 to 1863. These records give the name of the person, the number of acres, the date, and a meager designation of the location of the land.

There are 23 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

CHATHAM COUNTY

Chatham County was formed in 1770 from Orange. Was named in honor of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, who was the most eloquent English defender of the American cause during the Revolution.

The material on this county consists mostly of County Court Minutes, but there are several copies of inventories of estates and wills. There are no marriage bonds. There is also one copy of Minutes Docket of the Court of Equity.

The Court Minutes begin at the year 1774 and run to 1861. However, there are some copies missing. The first volume is dated 1774-1779, and the others as follows: 1781-1785, 1790-1794, 1794-1799, 1799-1800, 1811-1816, 1816-1822, 1822-1827, 1828-1833, 1834-1841, 1842-1849, 1849-1858, and 1860-1861. These volumes contain the general material found in the average Court Minutes of the period. There were kept the names of the Justices of the Peace and the petit and grand jurors for each term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions;

acknowledgments of deeds, bills of sale; appointments of road overseers; appointments of guardians, and records of letters of administrators, various court cases and the disposition of them; apprenticing of orphans; lists of property sold for taxes and the amount of taxes due on each; in some volumes are found the rates of taxes levied for the year, and records of various bonds and petitions.

There is a copy of the Minute Docket of the Court of Equity, dated 1821-1839. This book contains many cases in dispute in equity. The details of the complaints and the answers are not given, but the decrees are given.

There are six will books, dated respectively, 1793, 1794-1798, 1798-1819, 1798-1834, 1817-1857, 1784-1794, the last of which contains some deeds and inventories of estates.

Besides the volume dated 1784-1794, in which there are some inventories of estates, there are two large volumes of inventories of estates dated 1801-1812 and 1809-1822. These volumes are in excellent condition, and the inventories were very well recorded.

The marriage bonds have been lost.

CHOWAN COUNTY

Chowan County was formed in 1672 from Albemarle. Was named for an Indian tribe in the northeastern part of the State when the English first came to North Carolina.

There is a fairly good collection of material from this county, yet there are not the County Court Minutes as of some counties, especially Carteret. There are County Papers, deeds, lists of taxables, and marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes begin at 1704 and run to 1798, but even between these dates the minutes for some years are missing. Some of the minutes books have come to pieces and have to be kept in cases. They are, therefore, not arranged chronologically, but they have the records of the period of development and procedure recorded. The things recorded are lists of Justices of the Peace and jurors for the sessions of court; acknowledgments of deeds; bills of sale, etc.; commissions of appointment of various kinds; orders by men of high authority to petit officers; acknowledgments of letters of administration and records of bonds being given; and the records of cases. Most of these minutes are in the pamphlet style of book. The books dated from 1780 to 1798 are the regular size minute books.

There are several lists of taxables which date from 1766 to 1798. Some of these lists give the names and the amount, while others give the valuation, etc.

There are also several deed books, but they are in such condition as to have to be put in cases. They date from 1699 to 1760.

There is a case labeled "Procession Docket" and "County Court Papers." The Court Papers consist of various material such as subpœnas, court orders, etc. The Dockets are records of cases in the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions.

In addition to that material there are 19 volumes of County Papers, bound, 17 of which date from 1685 to 1805. They contain a great variety of papers such as grants, deeds, indentures of apprenticing, various bonds, petitions, appointments, subpœnas, capiases, etc.

There are 10 boxes of marriage bonds arranged alphabetically.

COLUMBUS COUNTY

Columbus County was formed in 1808 from Bladen and Brunswick. Was named in honor of the Discoverer of the New World.

The material from this county is so small as to amount to almost nothing. As a matter of fact, there is only one volume available, and it dates from 1838 to 1846. This is a volume of County Court Minutes and it contains the material usually recorded in Court Minutes of that period of our history. There are lists of Justices of the Peace, and jurors for the different sessions of court; acknowledgments of deeds and bills of sale, etc.; letters of administration, appointments of various kinds; licenses to sell liquors in small quantities, petitions of different kinds; records of many kinds of bonds being recorded, and a few cases and the disposition of them.

No marriage bonds or other kinds of material have been obtained.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Cumberland County was formed in 1754 from Bladen. Was named in honor of William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, second son of King George II. Cumberland was the commander of the English army at the battle of Culloden, in which the Scotch Highlanders were so badly defeated. Many of them came to America, and their principal settlement was at Cross Creek in Cumberland County.

There is quite a bit of material from this county, but the major part consists of County Court Minutes. There are 32 volumes of them, dating from 1784 to 1865. There are also two volumes of County Road Dockets and one volume of tax lists, and one case of loose material on the Town of Fayetteville, besides 19 boxes of marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes do not contain any unusual material. They consist of the materials ordinarily found in records of those periods which give the progress and achievement of the county and the County Court. There is such material as lists of the Justices of the Peace and petit and grand jurors; acknowledgments of legal papers such as deeds, bills of sale, letters of administration, apprenticing of orphans, appointments of various kinds, reports of officers' lists of property sold

for taxes, and property advertised to be sold at different years. There are a few deeds recorded in some of these books and oaths of naturalization.

This is the first county of which notice has been taken of the fact that it kept a special court minute book for the appointment of road overseers, their laborers, and their reports. There are two volumes of these books, dating from 1825 to 1855, and they contain the various appointments, etc. pertaining to Cumberland County.

There is also one volume of the lists of taxables, dating 1777-8-9-80. This volume also contains the lists of men who had not taken the oath of allegiance.

There is a volume of Equity Minute Docket, dating from 1788 to 1829. This book consists of various cases in equity and the settlement of them.

There are 19 cases of marriage bonds arranged alphabetically.

By far the most interesting material on this county or on any part of it, is that labeled "Fayetteville Papers," which date from 1820 to 1870. This case contains material of many kinds, such as petitions for the organization of a company to supply water to the town, reports for health protection by a committee appointed to investigate and suggest methods of prevention of diseases; estimates of losses by fire; various kinds of paper money; reports of receipts and disbursements for the maintenance of the town government; a copy of the *Raleigh Register* for the year 1823, which contains an almanac and lists of the county court clerks and sheriffs for the counties of the State. There are also official letters included in the material.

In the County Court Minutes, dated October 1787 to February 1791, on the last page of the book is an oath of allegiance to the United States and a denouncement of allegiance to George III.

There are five volumes of County Court Minutes which are dated as follows: 1755-1759, 1759-1765, 1772-1776, 1777-1778, 1778-1780. These books contain the material ordinarily found in the court minutes.

CURRITUCK COUNTY

Currituck County was formed in 1672 from Albemarle. It was named after an Indian tribe.

All the material available from this county is County Court Minutes and marriage bonds. There is one case of marriage bonds and four volumes of County Court Minutes.

The four volumes of County Court Minutes date somewhat as follows: Three volumes date from 1799 to 1830, and then there is a break until 1851, after which they run to 1868. The material is of the usual kind recorded in Court Minutes. It is true there are a few deeds recorded

in the last volume, but there are only a few. There are court cases recorded and Justices of the Peace and jurors at the many terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. There are acknowledgments of deeds, bills of sale, petitions of various kinds, such as for a year's provisions, for dowers, petitions to sell negroes, petitions for partitions of land, the probations of wills, etc. Three of the four books are in such bad shape as to have to be kept in cases for proper preservation.

There are about 100 marriage bonds.

DUPLIN COUNTY

Duplin County was formed in 1749 from New Hanover. Was named in honor of George Henry Hay, Lord Duplin, an English nobleman.

There is no variety of material on this county. In fact, there are only 11 cases of marriage bonds and 16 volumes of County Court Minutes.

The County Court Minutes date from 1784 to 1852, but some between these dates are missing. They date as follows: 1784-1791, 1793-1799, 1801-1802, 1802-1804, 1804-1810, 1810-1816, 1817-1819, 1819-1822, 1823-1828, 1832-1834, 1837-1838, 1840-1843, 1843-1845, 1845-1846, 1851-1852. They contain the materials ordinarily kept in such records, i.e. the lists of the Justices of the Peace, and the jurors, petitions of many kinds, appointments of every kind, court cases and the disposition of them, acknowledgments of deeds and the probation of wills, etc.

The marriage bonds are arranged alphabetically, and there are 11 boxes.

EDGECOMBE COUNTY

Edgecombe County was formed in 1735 from Bertie. Was named for Richard Edgecombe, who became Baron Edgecombe and was a lord of the English treasury.

The variety of material on this county is not so great, but it is better than that of some other counties. There are County Court Minutes, inventories and sales of estates, Negro Cohabitation bonds, and marriage bonds. Some of the material is well preserved, while some of it is in bad condition.

The County Court Minutes are by far the greatest in number, there being 24 volumes, which date from 1757 to 1863. The first volume, dating 1757-1764, contains records of courts held at Tarboro and Enfield. After that date, however, all courts were held at Tarboro. The records contain such things as the acknowledgments of deeds; probations of wills; powers of attorney; appointments of road overseers; various court cases; appointments of Justices to take the lists of taxables; the names of the Justices and the jurors that sat at the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; various

orders for people to build or repair bridges, open new roads, and for the county trustee to pay the bills when the work was accepted by the court; apprenticing of children; appointments of guardians, etc. These minutes date as follows: 1757-1764, 1764-1772, 1772-1776, 1778-1784, 1784-1790, 1790-1792, 1792-1794, 1795-1797, 1797-1800, 1800-1804, 1804-1807, 1807-1811, 1811-1813, 1813-1816, 1816-1819, 1819-1820, 1820-1826, 1826-1832, 1833-1840, 1840-1844, 1844-1848, 1848-1852, 1853-1857, 1857-1863, 1863.

There are 6 volumes of inventories of estates which date as follows: 1735-1753, 1764-1772, 1783-1788, 1788-1790, 1790-1792, 1792-1794, 1798-1800. These volumes have an index at the back of each book which facilitates the finding of any particular item. The inventories are recorded in various styles, and of various items such as inventories of goods sold, while some are records of the deceased person's estate.

There is one docket of executions which begins with the May Term 1769, and ends with the February Term 1772. In this docket there is very little stated about the cases.

There is one Crown Docket which begins with the May Term of Court 1755, and ends with the March Term 1762. This docket is much on the order of the execution docket, the records being made in practically the same manner.

There is a docket or record of marks and brands which dates from August 1732 to May 1809. This record was kept very uniformly, giving the mark and brand, when the person had a brand, and the name opposite, with the date of recording it above.

There is a volume of the minutes of the Commissioners of Tarboro dating from September 20, 1760, to July 26, 1793. They consist of appointments, orders of many kinds, petitions, etc.

There is one box which contains Edgecombe County Negro Cohabitation records for the years 1866-1867. Some of these records not only tell the number of years certain parties have cohabited, but also the number of children they have.

There are 19 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Franklin County was formed in 1779 from Bute. Was named in honor of Benjamin Franklin.

There is a fairly good collection of material from this county. There are 18 volumes of County Court Minutes, one volume of deeds, two volumes of lists of taxables, and one case with original wills, inventories of estates, lists of taxables, and a few papers of wardens' reports; and eleven boxes of marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date from 1785 to 1863, of which the different volumes date as follows: 1785-1794, 1794-1800, 1800-1805,

1803-1810, 1810-1813, 1814-1817, 1818-1820, 1819-1821, 1820-1823, 1820-1824, 1822-1824, 1825-1827, 1828-1830, 1831-1836, 1836-1840, 1840-1844, 1844-1847, 1847-1853. There seems to be nothing out of the ordinary recorded in these papers, which contain such things as the lists of the Justices of the Peace and jurors at each term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; acknowledgments of deeds; probations of wills; appointments of road overseers; acknowledgments and granting letters of administration; records of apprenticing children; court cases and in some instances the disposition of them.

The two volumes of the lists of taxables date from 1804 to 1836. They contain the lists of taxables for the different districts, after which there is a recapitulation of the entire tax for the county for each year. Because of the arrangement of the records, it is easy to compare the taxes and valuation of the property for the different years, which seem to rise one year and fall the next or the following years.

The volume of deeds dates from 1797 to 1799. In the back of the book is an index by which one can easily find the deed wanted.

There are 17 papers of orphans accounts, dating between 1794 and 1795, in a case labeled "Wills, Inventories, Lists of Taxables." In the same case there is a list of inventories of estates for the year 1795. There are also a few original wills dating between 1794 and 1795. And in addition to these, there are a few lists of taxables for the year 1798.

There are 11 boxes of marriage bonds which are arranged alphabetically.

GATES COUNTY

Gates County was formed in 1778 from Chowan, Perquimans, and Hertford. Was named in honor of General Horatio Gates, who commanded the American army at the battle of Saratoga.

Almost all the material from this county consists of County Court Minutes. There are three large volumes of these and several copies of small pamphlet-like volumes. There are also two reference dockets, and one case of court papers, besides six boxes of marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date from 1779 to 1868, with the cases containing the pamphlet-like volumes dating as follows: 1779-1796, 1796-1815, 1815-1830, 1830-1858, and the three large volumes are as follows: 1835-1841, 1851-1854, in the back of this volume is the probation of deeds, mortgages, and chattels which date 1878-1882, 1859-1868. These books contain the records ordinarily made in Court Minutes of those times. There are the lists of the Justices of the Peace, and the jurors for each term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; probation of wills (in the volume dated 1833-1841, in the last part of the book, is the will of Abraham W. Parker); acknowledgments

of deeds; appointments of various kinds; many kinds of court orders, such as the closing of roads and the opening of new ones, the building of new bridges, etc.; many court cases; in the decade of 1860-70 there were orders to pay certain persons for the care of soldiers, and for the support of infirm persons, and for provisions supplied to soldiers; there is one commission from Governor Martin appointing a Justice of the Peace; records of granting licenses to people to retail liquor. There is also a report of the Sheriff for the special taxes or privileges licenses granted in the county, including the mention of stage players and rope dancers. After 1840 there were records of the amount of money spent for common school purposes, and many other things of like nature.

It seems that the volume dating 1851-1854 was discarded for a time before all of it was used, then later used to record the probation and acknowledgment of deeds, mortgages, and chattels for the years between 1878 and 1882.

There is one case containing two dockets of trials and references. These dockets include the years between 1784 and 1786.

There is also one case containing court papers, which consist of bonds of various kinds, such as bonds for the appearance to court of certain parties, and bonds for the faithful performance of the duties by officers.

There are six boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

There is one volume of Public School Records, which is dated 1841-1861. This book contains the records of the schools in Gates County, and there are several returns for the election of committeemen, which are included on loose paper.

There is one box of inventories of estates, which is dated 1779 to 1800.

There are two boxes of wills, which are arranged alphabetically. There are no dates on these boxes, but of course the wills are dated. These wills have been abstracted.

There is one volume of the list of taxes for 1784-1806. The names are arranged alphabetically for the different years and for the districts.

There is one volume of the Records of Marriages, of which the dates range from 1851 to 1866.

There is one volume which is a record of the proceedings of the Commissioners of the town of Gatesville in 1833, also of the registration of slaves to work in the Great Dismal Swamp from 1847 to 1861 (as provided by the Legislature at the Session of 1846-47). There are also a few loose court papers in the volume, which are certificates of employment, etc.

GRANVILLE COUNTY

Granville County was formed in 1746 from Edgecombe. Was named in honor of John Carteret, Earl Granville, who owned the Granville District. He was Prime Minister under King George II, and a very brilliant man.

There are several volumes of County Court Minutes, one Trial Docket, two volumes of the Lists of Taxables, one volume of land entries, and one volume of Execution Docket. Thus it is quite evident that there is not much material available from this county.

The County Court Minutes date from 1786-1789, 1796-1799, 1800-1802, 1803-1806, 1806-1810, 1810-1813, 1813-1816, 1816-1818, 1818-1820. They contain lists of the Justices of the Peace and the jurors for each term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; acknowledgments of deeds; probation of wills; appointments of road overseers, etc.; many court cases and the disposition of them; court orders for the erection of bridges, and for the county trustee to pay the bill when the work was completed.

The two volumes of the Lists of Taxables contain the names of the persons, the valuation of property, and the number polls. These volumes date 1796-1802 and 1803-1809. At the end of the lists for the year is a recapitulation for the entire year.

The volume of land entries is dated 1778-1785.

The trial docket dates 1764-1776, and is in the same order as the execution docket.

The Execution Docket is dated 1765-1767.

There are no marriage bonds from this county.

HALIFAX COUNTY

Halifax County was formed in 1758 from Edgecombe. Was named in honor of George Montague Dunk, Earl of Halifax, president of the Board of Trade, which had control of the colonies before the Revolution.

There is by far a greater variety of material from this county than from the majority of them, but there are fewer County Court Minutes from this county than from the majority. But the variety makes the material much more interesting. There are County Court Minutes, marriage bonds, wills, deeds, county tax book, deeds of Edgecombe Precinct and county, Bertie Precinct and Halifax, county trustee records, inventories of estates, school records, and Superior Court District records.

The County Court Minutes do not run to completion according to date, as there are missing copies. There are only four copies, which are dated as follows: 1784-1787, 1796-1799, 1799-1802, and 1822-1824. They contain the lists of the Justices of the Peace and the jurors for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; acknowledgments of deeds; probation of wills; appointment of overseers of roads; orders to audit and settle estates; acknowledgment of deeds; probation of wills; appointments of overseers of roads; acknowledgment of powers of attorney; orders for the payment of sums for the

repairing of bridges, etc.; and various other things of like nature.

There is one volume of Superior Court records, dated 1783-1789, which is the records of the Superior Court of Equity. In this book is recorded the full complaints and the answers as filed, and in some cases the decision of the court or the disposition made of the cases. There are a few records of the Court of Equity of some other counties, but this book has the fullest account of the proceedings of any noticed. There is another volume labeled "Minute Docket from 1797 to 1805," which is the record of the Court of Equity of Halifax District, and contains similar material as the one above.

There is a volume of the County Trustee's records, which is dated 1826-1851. This is the first book of that nature observed, and is a very good book because of the fact that the material that it contains is rarely had or known. It contains the number, payee, and the amount of the vouchers paid out by the Trustee. At the end of the year's business is a balance of money from receipts and expenditures. It seems from these recapitulations that the County Trustee was compensated for his services by a fee of six per cent on disbursements. The Finance Committee audited the report of the County Trustee each year.

There is one copy of Halifax Trial Docket, which is dated 1766-1770, and contains only the names of the plaintiffs and the defendants, and in some cases the decisions of the court.

There is one volume of the Halifax Tax Book, which dates 1784-1834. It contains the names of the persons, the number of acres of land, the number of both white and black polls, the number of carriages, wheels of pleasure, the public tax, the county tax, and the parish tax. After the list of the above-mentioned things for the different districts for the year, there is a recapitulation of the districts of the many items taxed and the taxes collected. There is a case with lists of taxables in it, but these lists are summarized in the regular tax book dated 1784-1830. In the same book are inventories of estates, apprenticing of children, orders to take depositions, and depositions, an affidavit of denouncement of allegiance to kings, princes, or potentates, affidavits for the continuance of court cases, lists of insolvent debts, a proclamation of Governor Richard Caswell, and a book of race courses.

There is one volume of inventories of estates, dated 1773-1779. This book is in bad shape, but contains valuable material about the size of estates of deceased people.

There are three volumes of deeds, one of which contains original deeds. These books include deeds from 1755 to 1781. In addition to these books there are three boxes of original deeds.

There are also two boxes of wills which are arranged alphabetically.

There is one box of negro marriage bonds, which corresponds to the negro cohabitation bonds. These bonds are for the years 1866-1867.

There are 15 boxes of white marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

There is one volume of deeds, which is dated 1796 to 1802. This is by far the largest of any volume obtained from the counties. It has only the deeds recorded, but has been well kept and contains a great number of deeds.

HERTFORD COUNTY

Hertford County was formed in 1759 from Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton. Was named in honor of Francis Seymour Conway, Marquis of Hertford, an English nobleman. He was a brother of General Conway, a distinguished British soldier and member of Parliament, who favored the repeal of the Stamp Act. The word "Hertford" is said to mean "Red Ford."

The only material from this county is a list of taxables for the year 1782. This list contains the names of the persons taxes, the number of acres of land of each man, the amount of stock, the number of negroes and their ages, etc., and at the end there is a total of the entire property, which amounted to $202,884, and also 34 carriage wheels.

HYDE COUNTY

Hyde County was formed in 1705 from Bath. Was called Wickham until about 1712. It was named in honor of Governor Edward Hyde, of North Carolina, a grandson of the Earl of Clarendon. The Earl was one of the Lords Proprietors. Governor Hyde was a first cousin of Queen Anne.

The material from this county is in bad condition and there is very little of it. There are several copies of pamphlet-like volumes of County Court Minutes, one pamphlet-like volume of wills and inventories of estates, and one volume of land entries.

The County Court Minutes are in a worse condition than the others. Among these books is one dated about 1750, and which contains forms of oaths of various kinds, such as the oath of a creditor to be administered by a magistrate, the clerk's oath, grand and petit jurors' oaths, administrators' oaths, Quakers' affirmation, oaths for return of inventories of estate, marriage bonds and marriage licenses. The County Court Minutes are dated 1785 to 1797 in one box, and in the other box 1804 to 1828. They do not contain any unusual material, there being such things as lists of the Justices of the Peace and jurors; acknowledgments of deeds; court orders for the sale of negroes; petitions of different kinds; a few court cases, acknowledgments of bills of sale, and material of like nature.

The book of land entries is dated 1778-1795, and contains several hundred entries for land. This book gives the names, the number of acres of land listed, and the date.

There is a small pamphlet-like volume dated 1781-1785, which contains wills and inventories of estates.

There are no marriage bonds from this county.

JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County was formed in 1851 from Haywood and Macon. Was named in honor of Andrew Jackson, who was born in Mecklenburg County (the site of his birthplace is now in Union) and who won the brilliant victory over the British at New Orleans in 1815, and was twice elected President of the United States.

There is very little material from this county, since it is such a young county. There is one volume of County Court Minutes, and one volume of marriage records.

The volume of County Court Minutes dates 1853-1868, and contains the material ordinarily in such records. At the first part of the book there are recorded the elections of the county officers, and their filing the necessary bonds to assume the duties of their respective offices. There are recorded the names of the Justices of the Peace, and the jurors for each term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, appointments of many kinds, various court cases and the disposition of them, and other things of like nature. There are several wills recorded in this book, but in one case the will was recorded because of a protest on the part of the heirs and because that protest developed into a suit.

The book of marriage records is dated 1853-1874. In the first of this book the names of the couples married, the date of marriage, and the name of the person officiating are recorded. Later in the book, there are recorded the names of the parents of the couple married, the age, the color, the date of marriage, the date of issuing the license, the place of marriage, and the name of the person officiating, as well as his title.

JONES COUNTY

Jones County was formed in 1778 from Craven. Was named in honor of Willie Jones of Halifax. He was one of the leading Patriots of the Revolution, was President of the Council of Safety, and was opposed to the adoption of the Constitution of the United States.

There are only 8 volumes of material from this county, and they are County Court Minutes, which date as follows: 1807-1816, 1808-1810, 1816-1855, 1826-1832, 1833-1841, 1841-1851, 1851-1860, 1860-1868. These books contain material as was ordinarily recorded in court minutes. There are lists of the Justices of the Peace and the jurors for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, the records of filing inven-

tories of estates, petitions of many kinds, orders for the providing of year's provisions, and for dowers, and things of like nature.

There is also one book of Inventories of Estates. This book contains inventories filed during the years 1808-1825.

There is no other material from this county.

LENOIR COUNTY

Lenoir County was formed in 1791 from Dobbs and Craven. Was named in honor of General William Lenoir, one of the heroes of Kings Mountain.

There are only three volumes of material from this county, and they were bound by the Historical Commission. The papers included in these three volumes were collected by Lovit Hines of Kinston. They date from 1737 to 1914, and include some that are undated. They consist of grants from both George II and George III, deeds, bonds, a few letters, a few pencil-drawn plats of land (most of the deeds and grants have drawings on them), bills of sale, and papers of like nature. By far the most numerous are the deeds, which include grants or deeds from the State, as well as from individuals. There are a few quitclaim deeds.

MARTIN COUNTY

Martin County was formed in 1774 from Halifax and Tyrrell. Was named in honor of Josiah Martin, the last of the royal governors of North Carolina. It is probable that this name would have been changed like those of Dobbs and Tryon, but for the popularity of Alexander Martin, who was governor in 1782 and again in 1790.

There is very little material from this county, and what volumes there are have been through a fire.

There is a pamphlet-like volume of the County Court of Equity, which is dated 1807-1829. The bottom of this book is burned, and it is in bad condition. It has only the proceedings of the Court of Equity in it.

There is another pamphlet-like volume of County Court Minutes for the year 1847. There is very little material in this volume, but what there is consists of what is ordinarily recorded in such records.

There is one large volume of deeds which dates 1774-1787. This book is in bad condition also. The leaves are badly worn and many of them are completely out. On account of the ragged leaves and those torn out, it is almost impossible to read all of the deeds.

MITCHELL COUNTY

Mitchell County was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, and McDowell. Was named in honor of Elisha Mitchell, a professor in the University of North Carolina. While on an exploring expedition on

Mount Mitchell, the highest peak east of the Rocky Mountains, Dr. Mitchell fell from a high peak and was killed. His body was buried on the top of this lofty mountain.

The only material from this county is one volume of County Court Minutes, which is dated 1861 to 1868. The material is that which was ordinarily recorded in court minutes. This county is a young county, and many of the books are still in use, and for that reason there is only one in the Historical Commission collections.

NASH COUNTY

Nash County was formed in 1777 from Edgecombe. Was named in honor of General Francis Nash, a soldier of the Revolution, who was mortally wounded while fighting under Washington at Germantown. The United States has erected a monument in his honor at the Guilford Battleground near Greensboro.

The material from this county consists of County Court Minutes and marriage bonds. The County Court Minutes as a whole are in very good condition, and run from 1778 to 1868, consecutively. They contain the material ordinarily recorded in court records. The things recorded are lists of the Justices of the Peace and the jurors for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, record of filing inventories of estates, appointments of road overseers, apprenticing of orphans, court cases, and there are a few wills, besides many kinds of petitions. There are also orders for the payment of bills, etc.

There are seven boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

NEW HANOVER COUNTY

New Hanover County was formed in 1729 from Bath. Was named after Hanover, a country in Europe whose ruler became King of England with the title of George I.

The majority of material from this county consists of County Court Minutes, of which there are 19 large volumes, besides 13 small pamphlet-like volumes. There are lists of taxables, and inventories of estates, Wilmington District Superior Court Trial Dockets, Execution Docket, Court Docket, Reference Docket, Sheriffs' bonds, lists of county officers, and lists of all officials. There are also 13 boxes of marriage bonds, one box of negro cohabitation certificates and marriage bonds, and one box with four small memorandum books in it, in which are recorded the names of men who were married and the year. These books run from 1791 to 1867.

The County Court Minutes begin as far back as 1737, and run to 1866. However, there are a few breaks in them. Besides the things

ordinarily recorded in them, there are a good many oaths of allegiance and certificates of desirability to become American citizens. There are more of them in this county than in any other county observed.

In the box labeled "Lists of taxables and Inventories," is some very interesting material. There is a bond of security of George W. Davis, who was appointed inspector of lumber and timber for 1843. There are inventories of estates, some of which include the libraries of the deceased person as well as his personal property. There is a list of taxables for the year 1782. This list gives the name of the persons, the number of acres of land, the number of negroes and their ages, the number of horses and mules, the cattle, the amount of stock in trade, carriage wheels, houses and lots, value of each person's property, and the total amount carried out. At the end of the list is a recapitulation of the whole list.

There is a trial docket for the Wilmington District Superior Court for the year 1756-58. There is a copy of the Wilmington District Execution Docket for the years 1786-1797. There is a copy of the Wilmington District Superior Court Trial Docket for the year 1786. There is also another for the year 1789, and still another for the year 1818.

There is a copy of the Wilmington District Court proceedings for the years 1789-1795.

There is a book which contains the bonds of the sheriffs for the years 1766-1775. This is the first book observed of this nature.

There is a small pamphlet-like volume which contains a list of the county officials for the year 1774-1790. The officers listed are magistrates, constables, searchers, overseers, and patrolmen. Opposite the name is recorded the district over which that person had charge.

There is a criminal and civil docket for the years 1796-1820. There is also a criminal docket for the years 1824-1828.

There is a small volume which contains the officers of all kinds for the years 1807-1812.

In addition to all these there is one box of negro cohabitation certificates and marriage bonds for the years 1866-1867.

There are 13 boxes of white marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

There are four small memorandum books in a box, which contain the names of some men who were married in certain years. These books extend from 1791 to 1867, but they are not complete.

In the volume of County Court Minutes, dated 1863-1866, in the front part is pasted the list of articles and papers which required revenue stamps.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Northampton County was formed in 1741 from Bertie. Was named in honor of George, Earl of Northampton, an English nobleman. His son, Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington, was high in office when Gabriel Johnston was governor of North Carolina, and had the town of Wilmington named in his honor.

There are 12 volumes of County Court Minutes, one volume of orphans' estates, and two volumes of inventories of estates from this county, besides 11 boxes marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes are dated as follows: 1792-1799, 1813-1816, 1817-1821, 1825-1829, 1829-1835, 1835-1839, 1839-1845, 1843-1844, 1856-1858, 1859-1863, 1863-1867, 1867-1868. These volumes contain such material as lists of Justices of the Peace and the jurors, both petit and grand, for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; acknowledgment of deeds; probation of wills; appointments of different kinds; petitions for various things; court cases and their disposition, etc. In the minutes of 1865 is recorded the proclamation of W. W. Holden, provisional governor of North Carolina.

The two volumes of inventories of estates are dated 1781-1792 and 1787-1801, the last of which is properly indexed in the back. There is a detached index to the one dated 1781-1792.

There is a volume of orphans' estates, which is dated 1781-1801, and there is a detached index for it.

There are 11 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

ONSLOW COUNTY

Onslow County was formed in 1734 from Bath. Was named in honor of Arthus Onslow, who for more than 30 years was Speaker of the House of Commons of the British Parliament.

The material from this county consists mostly of County Court Minutes, but there are a few wills, 6 boxes of marriage bonds, and one box of miscellaneous material, which consists of inventories of estates, land entries, and court papers.

The County Court Minutes begin at 1734 and run up to 1868. Most of these records are in pamphlet-like volumes, and some are in bad condition. They contain the material recorded in regular court minutes, which consists of such as follows: Lists of Justices of the Peace and the petit and grand jurors for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, appointments of various kinds, court cases, petitions for dowers, for year's provisions, petitions for partitions of land, sundry court orders, such as order for bridges to be repaired, etc.

There are two volumes of wills. These wills have been repaired and bound by the Commission. They date from 1757 to 1790, and among them there are some inventories of estates and sheets belonging to the index of inventories.

There is a box labeled "Inventories, Land Entries, Court Papers," which contains the Crown Docket for the years 1763-1766. There are tax lists for the years 1825-1827, land entries for 1785-1792, 1793-1796, writs for the years 1745-1746, 1754-1759, 1752-1759, 1762; inventories of estates, 1785; and loose leaves of court papers for 1746-1764.

There are 6 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

One of the most interesting things is the way the officers obtained record books. They would secure the paper and then get newspapers and make the covers for them by pasting several papers together. There is part of a London paper serving as the cover of one volume. This paper is dated 1761. There is part of a North Carolina paper dated 1791 on another, and part of a North Carolina paper dated 1793 on still another volume. All of these made pamphlet-like volumes for the records.

ORANGE COUNTY

Orange County was formed in 1753 from Granville, Johnston, and Bladen. Was named in honor of William of Orange, who became King William III of England. He was one of the greatest of the Kings of England, and saved the English people from the tyranny of James II. His name is held in honor wherever English liberty is enjoyed.

There is a great deal of materal from this county. In fact, there are few counties of which there is as much. There are 19 volumes of County Court Minutes, lists of taxables, a good many wills, negro cohabitation records, marriage bonds, and other material.

The County Court Minutes begin September 1752 and run to 1857. There are 19 of these volumes, which contain lists of the Justices of the Peace, lists of jurors both petit and grand, acknowledgment of deeds, probation of wills, appointments of various natures, many kinds of court orders for the payment of debts, etc., petitions for partition of land, for year's provision, and for dowers, records of return of inventories of estate, apprenticing of orphans, and many other things of like nature. These books are dated as follows: 1752-1762, 1762-1766, 1777-1788, 1787-1795, 1795-1800, 1800-1804, 1805-1809, 1810-1814, 1815-1817, 1818-1822, 1822-1826, 1826-1831, 1831-1835, 1836-1839, 1840-1845, 1845-1847, 1847-1851, 1854-1857.

There is one volume of negro cohabitation records, which is dated 1866-1868. This is the first volume found which had the certificate recorded. Such certificates in other counties have been only sheets of paper.

There are four boxes of loose wills. These wills are arranged alphabetically, rather than chronologically.

There are several boxes which contain lists of taxables. From the standpoint of quantity there is a good collection of the lists of taxables from this county. They are for the years 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1818.

There is a box labeled "Orange Letters and Printed Matter." This box contains such things as articles entitled "Waste of People's Money—Radical Extravagance," which is a comparison of expenditures for the years 1866-67 and 1868-69, letters from pension agents soliciting information for clients, personal letters, and a prospectus from John H. Wheeler for his History of North Carolina, also one for "The Republican," reports of the Comptroller of North Carolina for taxes collected, a circular letter sent out by citizens pleading for the non-division of Orange County. There are also lists of the people who voted in 1864, giving account of their votes for governor, senator, commons, and sheriff. The candidates were not recorded, consequently it cannot be judged for whom each man voted.

There is a small typewritten list of all material on this county, which is kept with the other material on this county, but the list is not good.

There are 26 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

There is a book in which nothing is recorded except the acknowledgments of deeds. It contains the acknowledgments of deeds for the years 1742 to 1793.

PASQUOTANK COUNTY

Pasquotank County was formed in 1672 from Albemarle. Was named for an Indian tribe of the eastern part of the State. They first held court at Broomfield, then at Nixonton, and now at Elizabeth City.

There is more material from this county than from any county observed, and in addition to the quantity, there is a good variety in case a complete study of the county is to be made. The county is one of the oldest, and the material is likewise old. The material consists of County Court Minutes, Superior Court Minutes, Lists of Taxables, wills, deeds, patents, land entries, inventories of estates, commissions of various natures, settlements of estates, apprentice bonds for negroes, records of births, marriages, deaths, flesh marks, and cattle brands, Orphans' Court Minutes, records of the wardens of the poor, and marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes are dated from 1741 to 1868, but they are not absolutely complete. However, they are nearly so. Some of the earlier minutes contain records of the reference dockets as well as records ordinarily recorded in such books. There are 12 large volumes of these records, which date from 1765 to 1868. From 1791 to 1868

the records are complete and in good condition. These records do not seem to have any unusual material recorded in them. There are such records as lists of the Justices of the Peace, the names of the jurors, both grand and petit, for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, acknowledgment of deeds and bills of sale, probation of wills, various court orders, appointment of road overseers and of men to fill office, record of the sale of negroes for court cost, records of apprenticing children, records of the appointment of guardians and the replacement of them, records of oath of naturalization, and bonds to protect the wardens of the poor from the care of certain freed negroes, records of administrators qualifying, giving bond and returning inventories of estates, many court cases and the disposition of them, records of land to be sold for taxes, and many other things of like nature.

There are two volumes of Superior Court Minutes. These records are for the terms beginning March 1807 and ending in the spring term of 1828, and beginning at the fall term of 1852 and ending at the spring term of 1869. These records list jurors, both grand and petit, names of the constables, names of the presiding judges, and many decisions of the court, including some fines.

There are two boxes labeled "Lists of taxables," but there are other things included in one of these boxes, such as indentures of apprenticing, inventories of estates, personal letters, royal commissions for Justices of the Peace, attachments of goods by court orders, peace warrants, promissory notes, as well as tax lists. The tax lists are for different districts and cover different years.

There is a case labeled "Patents, Deeds, Land Entries, 1742-1787." This box contains material that is somewhat miscellaneous, since there are royal commissions of the Justices of the Peace, a bill for ministerial service by Dan Earl, and other things of like interest.

The collection of deeds for this county is larger than is usually found. There is a box with loose or original deeds which are dated 1732-1785. And in addition to this box, there are six volumes of copied deeds. Of course these are the regular record books, and they run from 1700 to 1785, with some years missing. In most of these volumes are indexes for the volumes which facilitate the finding of desired deeds.

There is a box of miscellaneous court papers, which contains warrants, bonds, lists of the jurors as they were drawn from the box, administrators' bonds, court executions, appearance bonds, powers of attorney and appearances.

There is a box labeled, "Records of slave matter. Emancipation, schools, processions." But as a fact there are in this box bonds of freed negroes, papers of the wardens of the poor, trials of negroes and the decision of the court, appearance bonds, a book of oaths, apprentice bonds, land possessions, etc.

There is a box of miscellaneous documents which contains commissions of Justices of the Peace by Governors Caswell, Samuel and Gabriel Johnston, Alexander Martin, George Burrington; ordinance for courts by James Glasgow, commissions as clerk by Nathaniel Rice, sheriffs' bonds, etc. These papers are dated from 1724 to 1789.

There is a box of settlements of estates, which are inventories of deceased persons. In addition to this box, there are two volumes of like material. These volumes are dated 1777-1792, and 1792-1798. In the back of each is the index by which you can find any particular settlement in which you are interested.

The next book of interest is the orphans' court minutes, which is dated 1757-1785. This book contains merely statements of the accounts of the orphans, some of which are rather in details while others contain just a few items with the balance due.

There is a box labeled "Inventories of Estates." It contains inventories of estates, divisions of land, a copy written by a teacher for her pupil to practice, court opinion against freeing slaves, letters, store accounts which are itemized, promissory notes, claims for right of way for road, attachments of property, bonds for keeping an ordinary, bills of sale, and marriage settlements.

There is a book of the wardens of the poor records. This book contains the records between 1807 and 1831, and the records are recorded according to the district of the county. All amounts paid either to wardens or individuals for particular persons were ordered at court at the term of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, and recorded as such.

There is a book of apprentice bonds, which is dated 1855-1861. This book has the printed form and it was only necessary to fill out the form to give bond to apprentice a negro by permission of the court. This is the first book found of this exact nature.

This is the first county of which there was kept a record of births, marriages, and deaths. There are two volumes of these, which date 1691-1797 and 1795-1822, and the last also contains records of flesh marks and cattle brands.

An example of the marriage and birth records is as follows:

Jon Baley and Penolopee Rapper Singlor were joined together in the holy estate of matrimony the 14th day of Dec. 1726.

John son of the said John and Penolopee was born the 27th day of Dec. 1729.

Mary daughter of the said John and Penolopee was born the 14th day of Dec. 1733.

Henry son of the said John and Penolopee was born the 8th day of Jan. 1736-7.

In the back of the last volume is the account of the county trustee for the year 1794, and further on in the back of the book there are

records of various claims against the county for years from 1798 to 1810.

There are three will books dating from 1762 to 1793. In the back of each book is an index.

There are 8 boxes of marriage bonds, which are alphabetically arranged.

PERQUIMANS COUNTY

Perquimans County was formed in 1672 from Albemarle. Was named after a tribe of Indians.

There is a large collection of material from this county, but most of it consists of inventories of estates. There are three volumes of County Court Minutes and two boxes which contain County Court Minutes. All the material, with the exception of the three volumes of County Court Minutes are in boxes. There are two boxes of deeds dating from 1737 to 1794.

There are four boxes of wills, dating from 1711 to 1808. These wills are arranged alphabetically.

There are twelve boxes of inventories of estates, none of which are later than 1800.

There are two boxes of taxables, which date from 1743 to 1836.

There is a box which has the register of births, marriages and deaths, dating from 1658 to 1820.

A box of precinct court records, dated 1688-1693 and 1735-1738, is the entire material of this nature.

The Court Papers, of which there are two boxes, are dated 1702-1816, and the papers are miscellaneous.

There is one box of material labeled "miscellaneous." This material consists of petitions, bonds, inventories of estates, etc.

In addition to this material, there are ten boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

The County Court Minutes contain the material usually recorded in such records. There are lists of the Justices of the Peace, lists of the jurors both grand and petit, acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, records of filing inventories of estates appointments of many kinds, etc.

PITT COUNTY

Pitt County was formed in 1760 from Beaufort. Was named in honor of William Pitt.

There is very little material from this county. There have been two fires in which most of the material was destroyed. There is, however, one box of county court papers, which date from 1761 to 1859. There is a list of a few persons who served in the Revolution and their length of service, a few lists of taxables and inventories of estates.

There are three volumes of County Court Minutes, which are dated as follows: 1858-1861, 1862-1867, and 1867-1868. These volumes contain the material ordinarily recorded in County Court Minutes. There are lists of the Justices of the Peace, the lists of jurors, court orders, cases tried, appointments of different kinds, and things of such nature.

There are only four marriage bonds from this county.

POLK COUNTY

Polk County was formed in 1855 from Rutherford and Henderson. Was named in honor of Colonel William Polk, who took part in Revolution at Germantown, Brandywine and Eutaw.

There is only one volume of County Court Minutes from this county, and it is dated 1847-48 and 1866-68. This book has very little material in it and nothing out of the ordinary.

There are two boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

RICHMOND COUNTY

Richmond County was formed in 1779 from Anson. Was named in honor of Charles Lenox, Duke of Richmond, principal Secretary of State in William Pitt's second administration. He was a strong friend of the American Colonies and made the motion in the House of Lords that they be granted their independence.

The material from this county is not great by any means. In fact, the entire collection consists of 10 volumes of County Court Minutes, which are dated as follows: 1779-1786, 1786-1792, 1800-1804, 1804-1808, 1809-1819, 1830-1838, 1838-1843, 1843-1847, 1847-1850, 1866-1868.

These records contain lists of the Justices of the Peace, jurors both grand and petit, appointments, acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, records of filing inventories of estates, and various court cases and their disposition, and the jury sitting on the cases. Nothing unusual seems to be recorded. There is one box of white marriage bonds, which date from 1858 to 1868; and there is also a case of negro marriage bonds which date from 1866 to 1868.

ROWAN COUNTY

Rowan County was formed in 1753 from Anson. Was named in honor of Mathew Rowan, a prominent leader before the Revolution, and for a short time after the death of Gabriel Johnston, acting governor.

There is almost no material from this county, there being only one box of County Court Minutes, which are dated 1750 to 1810, and the marriage bonds.

There are 11 boxes of wills from this county, which are arranged alphabetically. These wills are the originals, and are dated from 1757 to 1863.

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

Rockingham County was formed in 1785 from Guilford. Was named in honor of Charles Watson Wentworth, Marquis of Rockingham, who was the leader of the party in the British Parliament that advocated American independence. He was Prime Minister when the Stamp Act was repealed.

There is very little material from this county. There are only three volumes of County Court Minutes and the marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date as follows: 1786-1795, 1796-1803, 1804-1808. There is nothing unusual recorded in these books.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY

Rutherford County was formed in 1779 from Tryon and Burke. Was named in honor of General Griffith Rutherford, one of the most prominent of the Revolutionary patriots. He led the expedition that crushed the Cherokees in 1776, and rendered other important services, both in the Legislature and on the battlefield.

There is just a small amount of material from this county, and there is nothing of variety in the collections. There are County Court Minutes, land entries, guardians' accounts, and marriage bonds.

The land entries are in a box and are dated from 1791 to 1803. There are two volumes of these books, besides a few leaves from another one.

There is one volume of guardians' accounts, which are for the years between 1840 and 1850. Some of these accounts are itemized, while others have just the totals with the proper oaths attached.

The collection of County Court Minutes is by far the greatest part of that material. There are 12 volumes, besides some that are unfit to be on the shelf, except they be in boxes. These minutes date from 1780 to 1868. However, there are some volumes missing in the collection. There are lists of the Justices of the Peace, the jurors both grand and petit for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, records of filing inventories of estates, many court cases, and there are oaths to obtain credit for Revolutionary service according to an Act of the General Assembly of 1832. These oaths give the age and names of the applicants for the credit.

There are marriage bonds from this county.

ROBESON COUNTY

Robeson County was formed in 1786 from Bladen. Was named in honor of Colonel Thomas Robeson, a soldier of the Revolution. He was one of the leaders at the battle of Elizabethtown, which was fought September 1781.

By this battle the Tories in the southeastern part of the State were crushed forever. The commander of the Whigs was Colonel Thomas Brown.

This is another county from which there is very little material. There is one box with a few wills in it, but there are not many. These wills are abstracted, and are dated from 1784 to 1806.

There is also one box of miscellaneous material. This box contains letters, bonds, tax returns to the Comptroller general, notices, etc.

There are also marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

STOKES COUNTY

Stokes County was formed in 1798 from Surry. Was named in honor of Colonel John Stokes, a brave soldier of the Revolution, who was desperately wounded at the Waxhaw massacre, when Colonel Buford's regiment was cut to pieces by Tarleton. After the war Washington appointed him a judge of the United States Court in North Carolina.

The material from this county is somewhat scanty. There are four volumes of County Court Minutes, which cover a period of ten years. They are dated as follows: 1790-1793, 1793-1795, 1795-1798, and 1798-1800. There is no unusual material in these volumes. There is a record of the Justices of the Peace, the jurors, probation of wills, deeds, mortgages, etc., petitions of various kinds, appointments, etc.

There is one volume of inventories of estates, which is dated 1790 to 1809. There is an index to this volume by which can be located the estate sought. This index is detached from the volume.

There is one volume of Road Records, which is dated from 1806 to 1821. It gives the appointments of the road overseers and the roads over which they had charge. The appointments were made at the terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions.

There are two volumes of lists of taxables. They are dated as follows: 1790-1800, and 1800-1806. They contain the citizen's name, number of acres of land, number of polls, both white and black, and the total of his taxes. At the end of each year there is a recapitulation of of the entire tax returns and a list of insolvents.

There are 21 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

SURRY COUNTY

Surry County was formed in 1770 from Rowan. Was named in honor of Lord Surry, a prominent member of Parliament who opposed the taxation of the American colonies by Parliament.

The only material from this county is one box of officers bonds. This box contains only a few bonds which date from 1786 to 1803.

TYRRELL COUNTY

Tyrrell County was formed in 1729 from Albemarle. Was named in honor of Sir John Tyrrell, who at one time was one of the Lords Proprietors.

The material from this county consists of County Court Minutes, marriage bonds, deeds, miscellaneous court records, and land entries.

The County Court Minutes begin in 1735 and run to 1868, but some of the minutes are missing. What we have are dated as follows: 1735-1761, 1758 (for September only), 1761-1770, 1770-1782, 1761-1782, 1783-1794, 1798-1811, 1819-1849, 1841-1865, 1865-1868.

There is no very unusual material on this county. The Minutes contain such things as lists of the Justices of the Peace, lists of the jurors both grand and petit for the different terms of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, acknowledgments of deeds, probation of wills, appointments of overseers, guardians, etc., special court orders, petitions of many kinds, granting licenses for operating ordinaries and selling liquors, etc.

There are few land entries for the years between 1778 and 1796.

There are a good many deeds of this county, which are dated from 1735 to 1819. There are two volumes and three boxes of these deeds and two boxes which contain deeds with other material.

There are 12 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

There is also one box of miscellaneous court records, dated 1756-1786, and a tax list dated 1783.

WARREN COUNTY

Warren County was formed in 1779 from Bute. Was named in honor of General Joseph Warren, a brave Massachusetts soldier who fell while fighting the battle of Bunker Hill.

The material from this county consists of County Court Minutes, court-martial minutes, wills, inventories of estates, and marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes are dated 1783 to 1854, but all the volumes do not run in chronological order. There are nine volumes of them.

There is one volume of court-martial minutes, which is dated 1791-1815. This book contains the names of the persons present at the regimental court martials and their titles, if such they had. It also has the proceedings of the regular business of the court and the record of the officers qualifying.

There are four boxes of inventories of estates, which date between 1779 and 1800.

There are also two boxes of wills, which are dated between 1779 and 1800.

There are 23 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Washington County was formed in 1799 from Tyrrell. Was named in honor of George Washington.

There is only one volume of material from this county, and it is a volume of deeds, which is dated for the years between 1800 and 1801.

WAYNE COUNTY

Wayne County was formed in 1779 from Dobbs and Craven. Was named in honor of General Anthony Wayne, one of Washington's most trusted soldiers. His courage was so great as to amount almost to rashness, and his soldiers called him "Mad Anthony Wayne."

There is not as much material from this county as there is from some others, and neither is there a variety. There are a few County Court Minutes, a very few marriage bonds, inventories of estates, wills, and miscellaneous court papers.

The County Court Minutes date from 1787 to 1788. There is no unusual material in this set of minutes. There are lists of the Justices of the Peace, lists of jurors, court orders, petitions of many kinds, appointments of road overseers, etc.

There are five boxes of inventories of estates, which are dated 1780 to 1800.

There is one box of original wills, which are dated from 1782 to 1805. There are also nine small volumes of wills and inventories of estates, which are dated from 1782 to 1808.

There are two volumes of marriage bonds, each of which is indexed. Besides these, there are five marriage bonds in a case.

There is one box of miscellaneous court papers, which is dated 1780 to 1800.

WILKES COUNTY

Wilkes County was formed in 1777 from Surry and Burke. Was named in honor of John Wilkes. Wilkes was a violent opponent of the Tory party in England, who would not let him take his seat in Parliament to which he had been elected. The Americans imagined that he was suffering in the cause of liberty and named this county in his honor.

There is very little material from this county. There are a few County Court Minutes and the marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date from 1778 to 1797, but there is no unusual material recorded.

There is one volume of court records, which is dated 1778 to 1799. This volume contains bonds of many kinds, inventories of estates, powers of attorney, bills of sale, wills, contracts, etc.

There are 10 boxes of marriage bonds, which are arranged alphabetically.

YADKIN COUNTY

Yadkin County was formed in 1850 from Surry. Its name is derived from the Yadkin River, which runs through it. It is supposed to be an Indian name.

There is very little material from this county. There are only two volumes of County Court Minutes, and the marriage bonds.

The County Court Minutes date from 1856 to 1858 and from 1858 to 1868. There is no unusual material recorded in these volumes. There are lists of the Justices of the Peace, lists of the jurors both grand and petit, appointments, probation of wills, appointments of guardians, road overseers, and petitions of various kinds.

The marriage bonds are arranged alphabetically.

This book may be kept
FOURTEEN DAYS
A fine of 2 cents will be charged for each day
the book is kept overtime.

11 Feb '64
BUILDING USE ONLY
11-26-69